

# Commander's Call Topics



Dec. 10, 2010

*"With input from each of the military services, Congress is now considering changes to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. As military men and women, the American people count on us to adhere to the laws of the land, and we now stand ready and able to follow any decisions made. The success of implementing any changes in policy rests on the shoulders of our Air Force senior leaders, commanders and the NCO corps. We're confident that as professional Airmen, we will let our Core Values guide us in meeting challenges resulting from any changes."*

– Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy from his [Enlisted Perspective](#) on Air Force Core Values

## ► CURRENT ISSUES

### Senior DOD leaders share perspectives on future warfighting

While each service has its own unique training and education requirements, a panel of senior Department of Defense and service component leaders agree that the nation's military must be ready to respond jointly to the full spectrum of threats. These range from counterinsurgencies, international terrorism and failed states, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, environmental threats and pandemic diseases, to large force-on-force conventional conflict and cyber attack.

### 24th AF becomes AFCYBER

On Dec. 8, 24th Air Force changed from Air Forces Strategic to Air Forces Cyber. The change maintains the Air Force naming convention of aligning the numbered Air Forces with the combatant commands they support and better reflects the mission the numbered Air Force performs for the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

### Air Force selects preferred alternative base for C-27J training aircraft

Key Field Air National Guard Base, Miss., has been chosen as the preferred alternative base for the C-27J Spartan training aircraft. Pending completion of the environmental impact analysis process, Air Force officials intend to bed down two training C-27Js, with aircraft arriving in the second half of fiscal 2014.

## ► PERSONNEL ISSUES

### President extends stop loss claims deadline

Airmen, veterans and their beneficiaries now have until Dec. 18 to apply for retroactive stop loss special pay. To file a claim, eligible individuals may download a claim application at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss). Applicants who were serving in the Reserve or Guard at the time of stop loss may apply by visiting the [Air Reserve Personnel Center website](#).

### New policy bridges Korea tour normalization

A new policy has been introduced prioritizing what positions qualify for highly sought-after command sponsorships for family members. With full tour normalization, assignments to South Korea will be more like assignments to Germany, Japan or other overseas installations. Single servicemembers typically will serve two-year tours, and troops who bring their families will stay for three years.

### Nominations open for Outstanding Airmen of the Year Award

Air Force officials are seeking nominations for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Award for 2011. There are three categories: Airman, NCO and Senior NCO. Nominations must include examples of leadership and job performance in the nominee's primary duty, significant self-improvement, and base or community involvement from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2010. Nominations are due to the [Air Force Personnel Center](#) by April 22, 2011.

## FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### NORAD to track Santa for Christmas

The [NORAD Tracks Santa website](#) features holiday games and activities that change daily. This year, children are able to track Santa through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, and TroopTube. Beginning at midnight MST Dec. 24, watch Santa as he prepares his sleigh and checks his list. As soon as Santa takes off from the North Pole, children can also track him with up-to-the-minute updates on Google Maps and Google Earth.

### **Scholarships for Military Children Program seeking applicants**

Scholarship applications for the 2011 Scholarships for Military Children program are now available in commissaries worldwide and online at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org). Applications must be turned in to a commissary by Feb. 22, 2011. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary with qualified applicants.

### **Keep a food diary during the holidays**

It's possible to lose weight, or at least keep from gaining weight, during the holidays, if you keep a food diary. A food diary helps you see how much and what you eat throughout the day and night as well as what you eat over a period of time. Writing down what you eat and drink, along with how you are feeling at the time, helps you identify your eating habits. Also, writing down what and how much you eat helps with your self-control.

## **RESOURCES**

### ***AF.mil***

<http://www.af.mil>

### ***Airman magazine***

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>

### ***Air Force Community***

<http://www.afcommunity.af.mil/>

### ***Air Force Outreach***

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/>

### ***Military OneSource***

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

### ***Military HOMEFRONT***

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

### ***Air Force Personnel Center***

<http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

### ***Air Reserve Personnel Center***

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/>

### ***Department of Defense***

<http://www.defense.gov>

### ***Department of Defense News***

<http://www.defenselink.mil>

### ***TRICARE***

<http://www.tricare.mil>

### ***U.S. Government Web site***

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

### ***Employment Opportunities***

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

## AIR FORCE HERITAGE

### This Week in Air Force History

**Dec. 10, 1954** – Col. (Dr.) John P. Stapp went 632 mph in a rocket-propelled sled run, and sustained greater G-forces than ever endured in recorded deceleration tests. The test determined that humans can survive ejection from aircraft at supersonic speeds.

**Dec. 11, 1914** – An Army airplane received radio messages at a distance of 10 miles.

**Dec. 12, 1953** – Maj. Charles E. Yeager attained a speed of 1,650 mph — about twice that of sound — at Edwards AFB, Calif., in a Bell X-1A rocket ship launched from a B-29 bomber.

**Dec. 12, 1980** – After two and one-half years of study, the Community College of the Air Force at Maxwell AFB, Ala., is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association to award the Associate in Applied Science degree.

**Dec. 13-14, 1962** – The U.S. Air Force's Project Stargazer balloon, manned by Capt. Joseph A. Kittinger Jr., and William C. White, a U.S. Navy civilian astronomer, reached an altitude of 82,000 feet in an 18.5-hour flight over southwestern New Mexico.

**Dec. 16, 1958** – The Pacific Missile Range began launching operations with the successful flight of a Thor missile, the first ballistic missile launched over the Pacific Ocean.

For more information on Air Force history, go to <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil/>

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